

Crossgates Methodist Children's Center
21 Crossgates Drive Brandon, Mississippi

PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS

The congregation of Crossgates United Methodist Church believes that each child is a child of God and should have every opportunity to develop physically, intellectually, emotionally, socially, and spiritually to the fullest potential.

In response to the call of Christ to reach out in love to meet the needs of families and children, we are committed to a child care ministry based upon principles of the Christian faith as taught by Jesus Christ.

Therefore, our congregation is committed to carrying out our mission by establishing and maintaining an early childhood center. The purpose of the Center will be to provide a safe, secure, caring setting and Christian nurture for children of the congregation and the community. In addition to providing physical care for their children during the day, the center will provide programs of Christian nurture and support for the parents.

The GOALS of Crossgates Methodist Children's Center are:

- *to provide an environment which supports the growth of the whole child in developmentally appropriate ways.
- *to help children experience and learn about God's love through Jesus Christ.
- *to foster high self-esteem, a sense of competence, and a spirit of sharing.
- *to encourage children to respect and care for others, the community, and the world.
- *to foster creativity, exploration, self-discipline, and a love of learning.
- *to assist parents in guiding the development of their children.
- *to meet the basic needs of the children's good health and physical development.
- *to provide children with attention, acceptance, and affection.
- *to encourage children's relationships with adults, other children, and God.
- *to foster the unique abilities and meet the individual needs of each child.
- *to formulate programs based on child development knowledge.
- *to provide appropriate language and cognitive experiences.
- *to help children feel secure and comfortable in a setting away from parents and home.

MISSION STATEMENT

The congregation of Crossgates United Methodist Church believes that each child is a child of God and should have every opportunity to develop physically, intellectually, emotionally, socially, and spiritually, to the fullest potential. The members of this congregation believe we are called into the ministry of caring for children, showing concern for families, and providing a safe, nurturing environment that will give each child that opportunity to develop to his or her fullest potential.

In response to the call of Christ to reach out in love to meet the needs of families and children, we are committed to a child care ministry based upon the principle of the Christian faith as taught by Jesus Christ.